

Greenlee's Garden Newsletter



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Published by: Greenlee Robertsdottir © 2025

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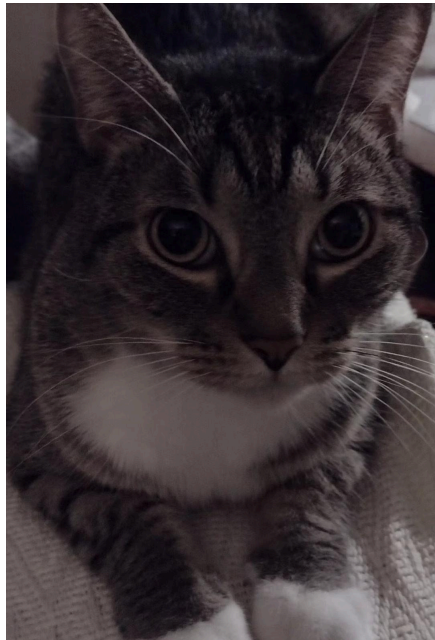
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Published in accordance with the Celtic Christian Calendar and
dedicated to those who came before and taught us so much.

May we never forget our roots.

In loving memory of my baby Hobbit...Spanky...



Welcome to my very first newsletter and blessed Mabon to you!

I'm so happy you've joined me for a little of this and that of the Old
Ways.

Here within these pages you'll find recipes, herbal remedies, art, lore,
superstitions and ancient knowledge.

I hope it all proves as interesting and fun as it is for me to compile it.

I'm always looking to share the work of others, so if you'd like to
submit something, just contact me by email listed on the previous
page.

Enjoy and never forget who we were, who we are and those who will
be...

Blessings...

Greenlee



~Short Story...~

How an Old Apothecary Cabinet Tied Me To My Roots...



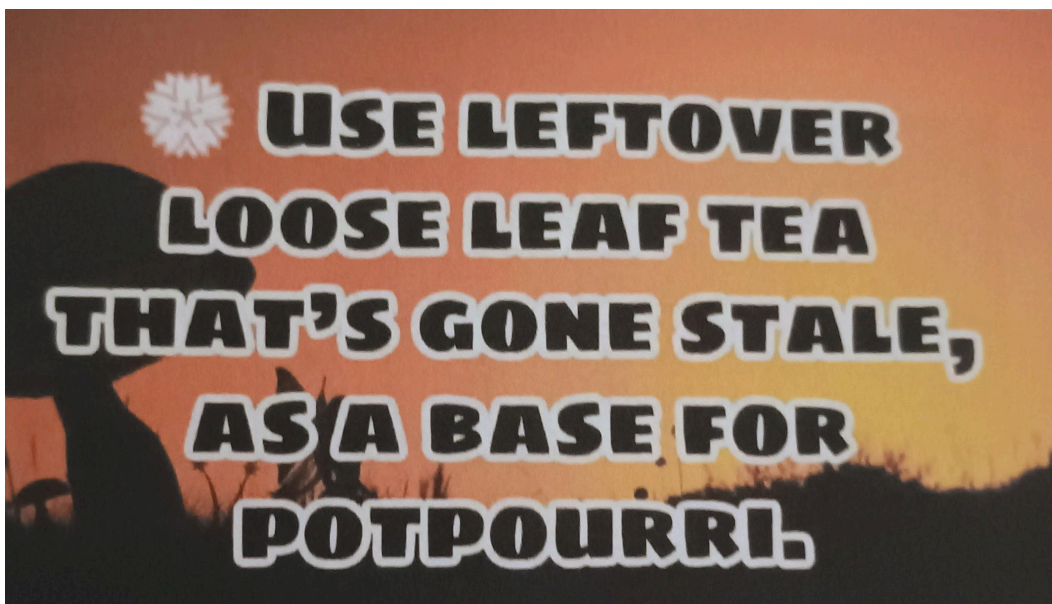
It was only within the past decade that a profound truth about my heritage came to light: I discovered my Welsh ancestry.

This belated revelation powerfully affirmed my long-held conviction that blood ties and ancestral connections invariably surface, no matter how many generations removed or how far one's lineage crosses oceans. A vivid example of this uncanny pull manifested itself two decades ago, long before I was aware of my Welsh roots.

My husband and I frequented a beloved antique shop, and on one particular visit, a beautiful cabinet, intricately painted with ivy, caught my eye. The woman selling it shared its story, explaining it was an antique she had brought with her all the way from Wales. I immediately felt a deep connection to it, and it has since served as my personal apothecary cabinet, a fitting tool for a healer, much like my own country witch/Healer ancestors would have used.

Now, knowing I possess extensive Welsh Druid heritage, this cabinet means more to me than words can express; it's a tangible, almost prophetic link to a past I didn't know I had, truly demonstrating how blood will always find a way to will out.

DIY!



Just add essential oils or fragrant flowers and you have easy
potpourri for gifting or personal use!

Healthy Yard Edibles!

Just about everyone knows of Blackjack (*Bidens Pilosa*) that noxious, yard overtaking weed with little beggar ticks you just can't get off your socks or clothes.

But...did you know that the flowers and leaves are a medicinal tea and those same leaves can be used as a pot herb or meal?

Read on for a dandy recipe!

Sautéed Blackjack:

You'll need

- 2 handfuls of blackjack leaves
- 1 large onion (finely chopped)
- 1 carrot or cucumber
- 1½ tablespoons olive oil

- Wash leaves thoroughly and trim off any unusable/unsightly parts.
- Heat oil in a saucepan and sautee onions until soft.
- Add blackjack, stirring continuously.
- Add onions or cucumber and continue to stir until all ingredients are soft and thoroughly cooked.

Pair with any meal.



Centering/Dispelling/Anger Prayer Spell

**I needed this today. You're welcome to it, if
you find that you do, as well...**

Calm down

Don't take it to heart

Clear your mind for a spiritual restart

It's nothing personal

Lesson learned

Righteous intentions are often spurned

Let peace engulf your heart and your mind...

Leave all anger and negativity behind!

Repeat as many times as needed.

Five questions with the amazing Tiffany Apan...







First off, Tiffany, THANK YOU for taking time out of your busy schedule to visit with me today.

You are a cornucopia of Celtic awesomeness.

You do so much ...you sing, you write your own songs, you act and you participate in Historical re-enactments, which, as a former Civil War re-enactor myself, is very dear to me.

Question 1...

Tell us how you got involved in Historical re-enactments...

TA: First of all, thank you so much for having me and it's an honor to be here in the first issue! Well, history has been a major influence in much of my work and life, from the music to the writing and storytelling. I've always enjoyed researching history but when I was writing my historical fantasy stories and then was getting ideas for the new music I wanted to write, I decided I wanted a more hands on and immersive approach when it came to my research of history. As good fortune would have it, there was a living history museum close to where I live. So I inquired about joining and the rest is well...history!

Question 2...

Do you perform your music or do you write specific pieces at these re-enactments and if so, do you perform with a group or solo?

TA: So I do a little bit of all of the above. I do get inspired at reenactments and I may record an idea into my phone while at an event but I write most of my stuff at home at my keyboard. I do have two groups I perform with at reenactments, a Tavern group called Wayward Companions and then a harp and voice duo called Celtic Spirit. But we also perform at other events and then I have my solo work that's more in the gothic and Celtic fantasy realm, but still historically inspired.

Question 3...

What got you interested in History and how did you find these awesome re-enactments?

TA: I have a lifelong love of history. I've been drawn to it for as long as I can remember. I find out much of them through word of mouth from the community, but I also discover some through social media as well.

Question 4...

How many re-enactments do you do a year and how far have you traveled to participate?

TA:

It can vary from year to year and I'm getting back to it after an ankle injury I recovered from last year. Plus it also depends on if we're talking performing at an event musically or actual camping and doing demonstrations for the public. But I would say between 5 and 10 a year.

Question 5...

Have you ever encountered anything otherworldly at events? Ghosts or anything else you can't explain?

TA: Oh yeah. Things including whispers in the trees at night that are definitely something other than the wind, voices in some of the old historic homes when there was no one else there, electric candles turning on by themselves, etc.

We've also had ghost hunters at the living history museum I'm primarily at and they've found a presence in our log cabin and our barn. All sorts of things that can fall into the category of the unexplained.

Again, thank you so much for your time, Tiffany! Here, please plug away, all your links, etc.

My website: thegothiccelt.com

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TikTok: @tiffanyapanmusic

YouTube: YouTube.com/@TiffanyApanMusic

Second YouTube:
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The Fairies' Visit

By: Greenlee Robertsdottir

In a magical forest, there lived a mother; Veighla was her name and her very young daughter, Eviena.

Their quaint but cozy two room stone cottage, situated by a clear, flowing stream in the midst of a magical forest, made them very happy.

Every day was filled with laughter and play. The forest was alive with wonders and they spent their days gathering seeds, flowers and herbs in the wood, which Veighla hung in the kitchen, using them in the delicious soups and stews she made.

One sunny day, Veighla and Eviena returned home from the town market, their baskets laden with fresh fruits and vegetables.

As they approached their cottage, Veighla's heart sank. The door was slightly ajar, and when they entered, they found their home in complete disarray. Cushions were on the floor, the table was overturned, and kitchen utensils were scattered everywhere. She sighed, thinking this chaos must be the work of mischievous fairies.

"Oh no," she whispered, "what did we do to upset them?" She turned to Eviena. "Darling...did you pick a sacred flower or disturb a fairy mound while out at play?"

Eviena's eyes grew wide with worry, and soon tears spilled down her cheeks. "I...I pulled up an Ash tree sapling," she sobbed. "I wanted to repot it and give it to you for your birthday, Mom."

Veighla knelt down and hugged her daughter tightly. "Oh, sweetheart, that was very thoughtful of you," she said gently. "But we have to fix this. Let's replant the sapling by the stream and make an offering to the fairies to make peace."

Together, they gathered the Ash tree sapling and walked through the forest, hand in hand. Finally, they found a beautiful spot by the stream where the sun shone brightly. They carefully dug a small hole and planted the sapling, making sure it had room to grow.

Next, they created a lovely offering. They left a small bowl of honey, baked tiny cakes, and wove a delicate flower wreath. Eviena placed the wreath on the ground, her little hands trembling with nervous excitement.

"Will this make them happy?" she asked.

"I hope so," Veighla replied. "We must show respect for the fairies and their home."

With their offering left beside the little tree, they returned to their cottage, feeling hopeful.

The next morning, they awoke to a wonderful scent of roses and lavender.

Rising quickly from their beds they inhaled the lovely aroma of the clean and tidy cottage, every item in its place.

"Look, Eviena! The fairies have forgiven us!" Veighla said, her heart full of happiness.

They smiled at each other, knowing their bond with the fairies and each other was now stronger than ever.

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See you at Samhain!

